

Please amend the application filed on even date herewith prior to proceeding with its examination.

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-27, 40-57, and 66-109 (Cancelled).

5           The claims comprising this Continuation Application are claims 28-39, and claims 58-65.

28.     (Original) A local area network node for use in a local area network including a hub, a plurality of nodes, communication cabling connecting said plurality of nodes to said hub for providing digital communication and a power supply distributor  
10    operative to provide at least some operating power to at least some of said plurality of nodes via said hub and said communication cabling, the local area network node comprising:

          a communications cabling interface receiving both power and data and separately providing power to a node power input and data to a node data input.

15           29.     (Original)     Apparatus according to claim 28 and wherein said communications cabling interface is internal to at least one of said plurality of nodes.

30.     (Original)     Apparatus according to claim 28 and wherein said communications cabling interface is external to at least one of said plurality of nodes.

31.     (Original)     Apparatus according to claim 28 and wherein said power  
20    supply distributor is operative to provide electrical power along said communication cabling without unacceptable degradation of said digital communication.

32. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 28 and wherein said communication cabling comprises at least one twisted wire pair connected to each node and wherein power is transmitted over a twisted wire pair along which data is also transmitted.

5 33. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 28 and wherein said communication cabling comprises at least two twisted wire pairs connected to each node and wherein power is transmitted over a twisted wire pair different from that along which data is transmitted.

34. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 29 and wherein said power  
10 supply distributor is operative to provide electrical power along said communication cabling without unacceptable degradation of said digital communication.

35. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 29 and wherein said communication cabling comprises at least one twisted wire pair connected to each node and wherein power is transmitted over a twisted wire pair along which data is also  
15 transmitted.

36. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 29 and wherein said communication cabling comprises at least two twisted wire pairs connected to each node and wherein power is transmitted over a twisted wire pair different from that along which data is transmitted.

20 37. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 30 and wherein said power supply distributor is operative to provide electrical power along said communication cabling without unacceptable degradation of said digital communication.

38. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 30 and wherein said communication cabling comprises at least one twisted wire pair connected to each node

and wherein power is transmitted over a twisted wire pair along which data is also transmitted.

39. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 30 and wherein said communication cabling comprises at least two twisted wire pairs connected to each node  
5 and wherein power is transmitted over a twisted wire pair different from that along which data is transmitted.

Claims 58-65:

58. (Original) A local area network comprising:  
a hub;  
10 a plurality of nodes;  
communication cabling connecting said plurality of nodes to said hub for providing data communication; and  
a power supply distributor operative to provide at least some operating power to at least some of said plurality of nodes via said communication cabling,  
15 said power supply distributor including power management functionality.

59. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 58 and wherein said power supply distributor comprises a power management & control unit which monitors and controls the power supplied to various nodes via the communications cabling.

60. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 59 and also comprising a  
20 management workstation which is operative to govern the operation of said power management & control unit.

61. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 60 and wherein said management workstation governs the operation of multiple power management &

control units.

62. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 59 and wherein said power management & control unit communicates with various nodes via a data communication concentrator thereby to govern their current mode of power usage.

5 63. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 59 and wherein said power management & control unit communicates with various nodes via control messages which are decoded at the nodes and are employed for controlling whether full or partial functionality is provided thereat.

64. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 59 and wherein said power  
10 management & control unit senses that mains power to said power supply distributor is not available and sends a control message to cause nodes to operate in a backup or reduced power mode.

65. (Original) A local area network node according to claim 59 and  
wherein said node includes essential circuitry, which is required for both full functionality  
15 and reduced functionality operation, and non-essential circuitry, which is not required for reduced functionality operation.